

Antigen-positive COVID-19 Cases

Washington State Department of Health

October 28, 2020



Washington State Department of
Health

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Antigen tests for the virus that causes COVID-19 recently received FDA emergency use authorization for use on individuals experiencing symptoms of COVID-19. Antigen tests are relatively inexpensive, rapid tests that directly detect the presence or absence of viral proteins. They are commonly used to test patients in settings that don't have a full laboratory, such as doctors' offices. The Washington State Department of Health (DOH) is carefully reviewing the available science to develop guidance on how to best use and interpret antigen test results. People who receive antigen testing for COVID-19 should continue to follow guidance from medical providers and public health officials.

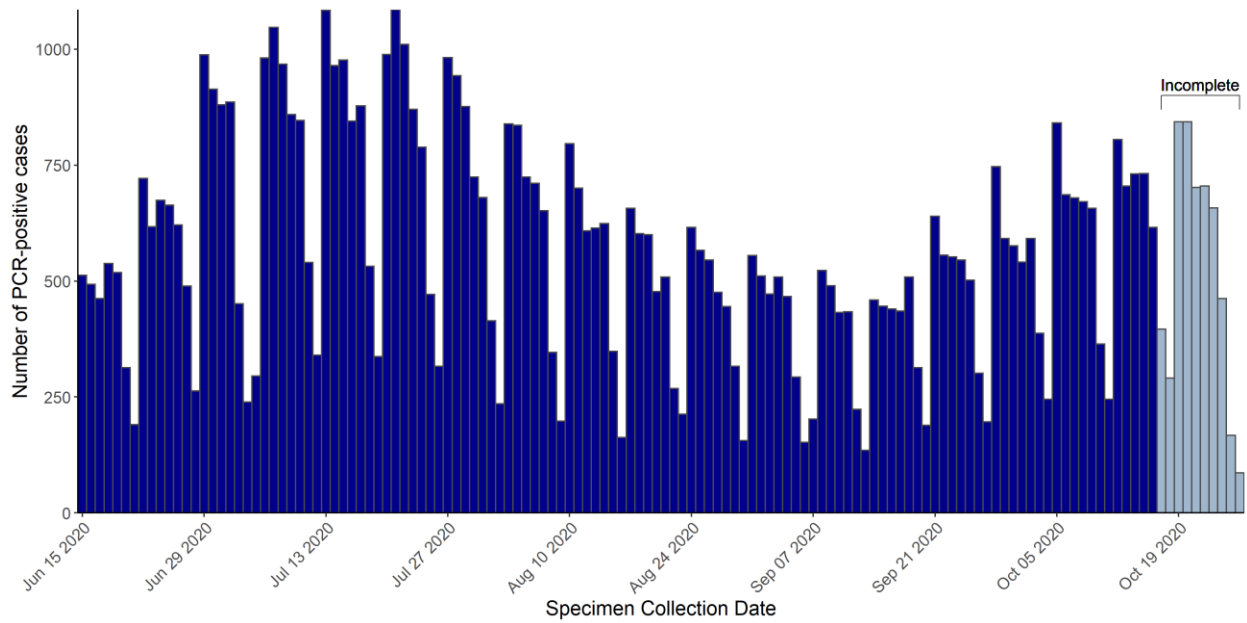
This report provides an overview of antigen-positive COVID-19 cases in Washington State residents that have been reported to the DOH. It includes data beginning June 15, 2020, which is the earliest specimen collection date for an antigen-positive case, through October 26, 2020. Results are typically available for less than 90% of specimens collected within the previous 10 days therefore results from October 17, 2020 through October 26, 2020 should be considered incomplete. There may be differences in the number of PCR-positive cases on a given date in this report compared with the DOH Dashboard Epidemiologic Curve tab. The Epidemiologic Curve cases are presented by date of illness onset which is unavailable for antigen-positive cases at this time.

An antigen-positive COVID-19 case was defined as an individual with a positive antigen test in the absence of a positive PCR test. A PCR-positive COVID-19 case was defined as an individual with a positive PCR test, regardless of antigen test status. Specimen collection date of the earliest positive test was used for both antigen-positive and PCR-positive cases.

As the data below indicate, the number of reported antigen-positive cases in Washington is shifting over time. Currently, reported antigen-positive cases represent a small proportion of total COVID-19 cases in Washington. For the most recent week with complete data (October 10, 2020 - October 16, 2020), 4 percent of all reported cases (PCR-positive and antigen-positive cases) were antigen-positive cases. We expect this will increase as antigen testing becomes more available across the state.

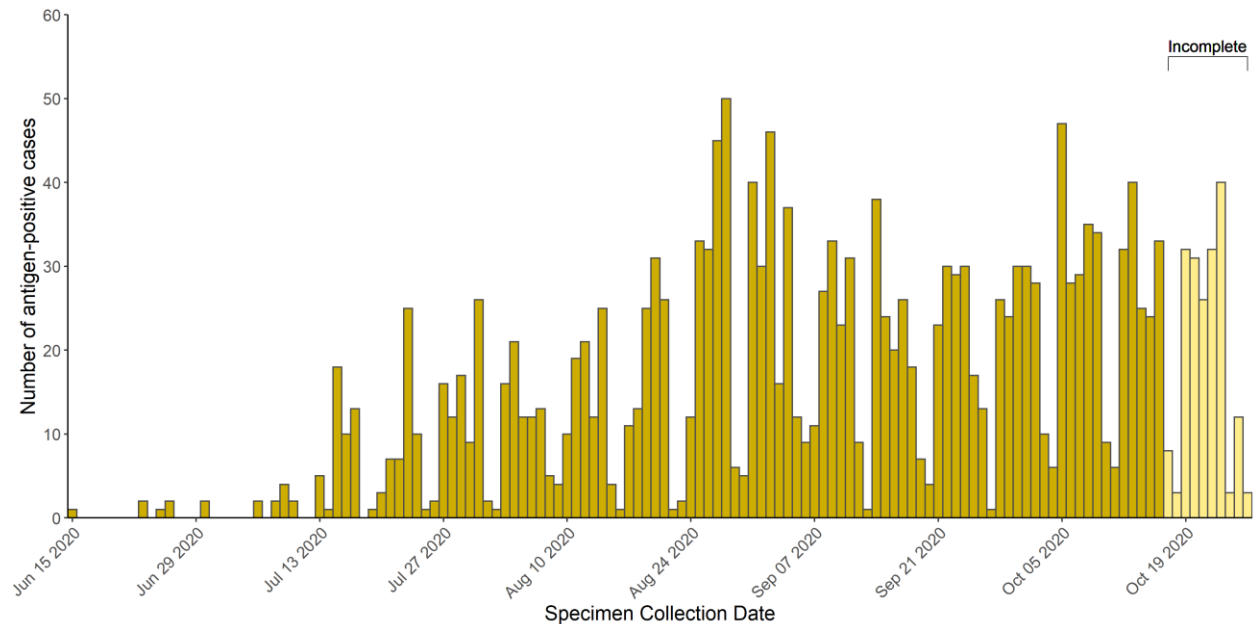
Given the dynamic nature of COVID-19 surveillance data, reporting information about COVID-19 cases through the Washington Disease Reporting System can be updated over time. As additional testing information becomes available, antigen-positive cases previously reported may be reclassified as PCR-positive cases.

Number of reported PCR-positive COVID-19 cases by specimen collection date - Washington, June 15-October 26, 2020 (n=75962*)



*273 PCR positive cases were missing a specimen collection date and excluded from this analysis

Number of reported antigen-positive COVID-19 cases by specimen collection date - Washington, June 15-October 26, 2020 (n=1962*)



*6 antigen positive cases were missing a specimen collection date and excluded from this analysis

Number of PCR- and antigen-positive COVID-19 cases by specimen collection date - Washington, June 15-October 26, 2020 (n=77924*)

Specimen Collection Date	PCR-positive cases	Antigen-positive cases
Jun 15 2020	512	1
Jun 16 2020	493	0
Jun 17 2020	462	0
Jun 18 2020	538	0
Jun 19 2020	518	0
Jun 20 2020	313	0
Jun 21 2020	190	0
Jun 22 2020	721	0
Jun 23 2020	617	2
Jun 24 2020	674	0
Jun 25 2020	664	1
Jun 26 2020	621	2
Jun 27 2020	489	0
Jun 28 2020	263	0
Jun 29 2020	988	0
Jun 30 2020	914	2
Jul 01 2020	880	0
Jul 02 2020	886	0
Jul 03 2020	451	0
Jul 04 2020	239	0
Jul 05 2020	295	0
Jul 06 2020	981	2
Jul 07 2020	1047	0
Jul 08 2020	968	2
Jul 09 2020	859	4
Jul 10 2020	846	2
Jul 11 2020	540	0
Jul 12 2020	340	0
Jul 13 2020	1084	5
Jul 14 2020	965	1
Jul 15 2020	977	18
Jul 16 2020	845	10

Specimen Collection Date	PCR-positive cases	Antigen-positive cases
Jul 17 2020	878	13
Jul 18 2020	532	0
Jul 19 2020	337	1
Jul 20 2020	989	3
Jul 21 2020	1085	7
Jul 22 2020	1010	7
Jul 23 2020	870	25
Jul 24 2020	789	10
Jul 25 2020	471	1
Jul 26 2020	316	2
Jul 27 2020	982	16
Jul 28 2020	943	12
Jul 29 2020	876	17
Jul 30 2020	724	9
Jul 31 2020	680	26
Aug 01 2020	414	2
Aug 02 2020	235	1
Aug 03 2020	839	16
Aug 04 2020	836	21
Aug 05 2020	724	12
Aug 06 2020	711	12
Aug 07 2020	652	13
Aug 08 2020	346	5
Aug 09 2020	198	4
Aug 10 2020	796	10
Aug 11 2020	700	19
Aug 12 2020	608	21
Aug 13 2020	614	12
Aug 14 2020	624	25
Aug 15 2020	348	4
Aug 16 2020	163	1
Aug 17 2020	657	11
Aug 18 2020	602	13
Aug 19 2020	600	25

Specimen Collection Date	PCR-positive cases	Antigen-positive cases
Aug 20 2020	477	31
Aug 21 2020	509	26
Aug 22 2020	268	1
Aug 23 2020	213	2
Aug 24 2020	616	12
Aug 25 2020	566	33
Aug 26 2020	545	32
Aug 27 2020	476	45
Aug 28 2020	445	50
Aug 29 2020	316	6
Aug 30 2020	156	5
Aug 31 2020	555	40
Sep 01 2020	511	30
Sep 02 2020	472	46
Sep 03 2020	509	16
Sep 04 2020	467	37
Sep 05 2020	293	12
Sep 06 2020	152	9
Sep 07 2020	202	11
Sep 08 2020	523	27
Sep 09 2020	490	33
Sep 10 2020	432	23
Sep 11 2020	434	31
Sep 12 2020	223	9
Sep 13 2020	135	1
Sep 14 2020	459	38
Sep 15 2020	446	24
Sep 16 2020	440	20
Sep 17 2020	435	26
Sep 18 2020	509	18
Sep 19 2020	313	7
Sep 20 2020	189	4
Sep 21 2020	640	23
Sep 22 2020	556	30

Specimen Collection Date	PCR-positive cases	Antigen-positive cases
Sep 23 2020	552	29
Sep 24 2020	545	30
Sep 25 2020	502	17
Sep 26 2020	301	13
Sep 27 2020	196	1
Sep 28 2020	747	26
Sep 29 2020	592	24
Sep 30 2020	576	30
Oct 01 2020	541	30
Oct 02 2020	592	28
Oct 03 2020	387	10
Oct 04 2020	245	6
Oct 05 2020	841	47
Oct 06 2020	686	28
Oct 07 2020	679	29
Oct 08 2020	671	35
Oct 09 2020	657	34
Oct 10 2020	364	9
Oct 11 2020	245	6
Oct 12 2020	805	32
Oct 13 2020	705	40
Oct 14 2020	731	25
Oct 15 2020	732	24
Oct 16 2020	616	33
Oct 17 2020	396	8
Oct 18 2020	291	3
Oct 19 2020	843	32
Oct 20 2020	843	31
Oct 21 2020	702	26
Oct 22 2020	705	32
Oct 23 2020	658	40
Oct 24 2020	462	3
Oct 25 2020	167	12
Oct 26 2020	86	3

Specimen Collection Date	PCR-positive cases	Antigen-positive cases
Unknown	273	6

*273 PCR-positive cases and 6 antigen-positive cases were missing a specimen collection date and excluded from this analysis. Results are typically available for less than 90% of specimens collected within the previous 10 days, therefore data from October 17, 2020 through October 26, 2020 should be considered incomplete.